How can you participate in the CACFP?

CACFP funds originate at the Federal level in the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), an agency of the USDA, and then are distributed to facilities through the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (WDPI).

Contact WDPI at 608-267-9129 if you are one of the following facilities:

Child Care Centers

Head Start Programs

At-Risk After School Care Programs

Outside of School Hours Care Centers

Emergency Shelters

Adult Day Care Centers

To learn more, visit dpi.wi.gov/fns/index.html.

If you are a FDCH provider, visit foodprogramwi.org/about_us.phtml to contact the sponsoring organization located in your area.

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Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)



Do you want to make a lasting impact on the health and wellness of those in your care?

Would you like to offer healthier meals and snacks?

Would you like to receive funding to supplement the cost of serving healthy meals and snacks?

Consider participating in the
Child and Adult Care Food Program
(CACFP)

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Tony Evers, PhD, State Superintendent



What is the Child and Adult Care Food Program?

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is a federally funded voluntary program that helps pay for the cost of serving healthy meals and snacks to participants in qualifying facilities. The CACFP also improves the quality of care and makes it more affordable for many low-income families.

Why participate in the CACFP?

Overall, wellness is an important part in providing quality care for children and adults. Healthy eating and physical activity are two components of wellness that are encouraged by the CACFP. Through resources and educational opportunities offered, facilities and providers can increase daily movement, plan healthy menus, and improve the overall nutrition and physical activity environments in their facility. In addition, CACFP participation:

- Provides funding to supplement the cost of healthy meals and snacks.
- Teaches children at an early age a healthier way of eating that will last a lifetime.
- Provides adult participants good nutrition which allows them to remain independent longer.
- Gives parents and caregivers confidence knowing that you are invested in the health and well-being of their children or adult family members.
- Offers guidance in menu planning and recipe ideas.
- Offers technical assistance and consultation to assist in your program's success.

What types of meals are served?

Participating CACFP facilities serve complete, wholesome meals by following the meal patterns established by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Meal components and serving sizes are dependent on the age of the participants.

What facilities may participate in the CACFP?

Child Care Centers (CCC)

Eligible licensed child care centers and Head Start programs that serve meals and/or snacks to infants and children through age 12 can be reimbursed for up to two meals and one snack or two snacks and one meal per child, per day.

Family Day Care Homes (FDCH)

Licensed or certified family day care homes with infants and/or children through age 12 may be reimbursed for up to two meals and one snack or two snacks and one meal per child, per day. The day care homes participate through an approved sponsoring organization.

At-Risk After School Care Programs (AR)

AR programs offer after school enrichment activities for at-risk children and teenagers through age 18. Eligible programs may claim for reimbursement by serving meals and/or snacks to children and teens after school or school days off during the regular school year. To qualify, facilities must be located in an area where at least 50% of the children are eligible for free or reduced- price school meals. Agencies serving children 13 through 18 years of age only are not required to be licensed per Federal Regulations, unless local or state jurisdictions require it.

Outside of School Hours Care Centers (OSHCC)

The OSHCC is organized as an after school program (as well as when school is closed) for the purpose of providing child care services to children ages 12 and under. An OSHCC can run year round and may claim reimbursement for up to two meals and one snack, or two snacks and one meal per child, per day. Eligibility is based on household income levels of the children enrolled.

Emergency Shelters (ES)

Eligible emergency shelters that offer meals to homeless youth and children through the age of 18 may be reimbursed for up to three meals per eligible resident per day.

Adult Day Care Centers (ADC)

Eligible licensed or certified Adult Day Care Centers that provide structured, comprehensive services to nonresidential adults with a functional impairment or who are 60 years and older may be reimbursed for up to two meals and one snack or two snacks and one meal per eligible adult per day.